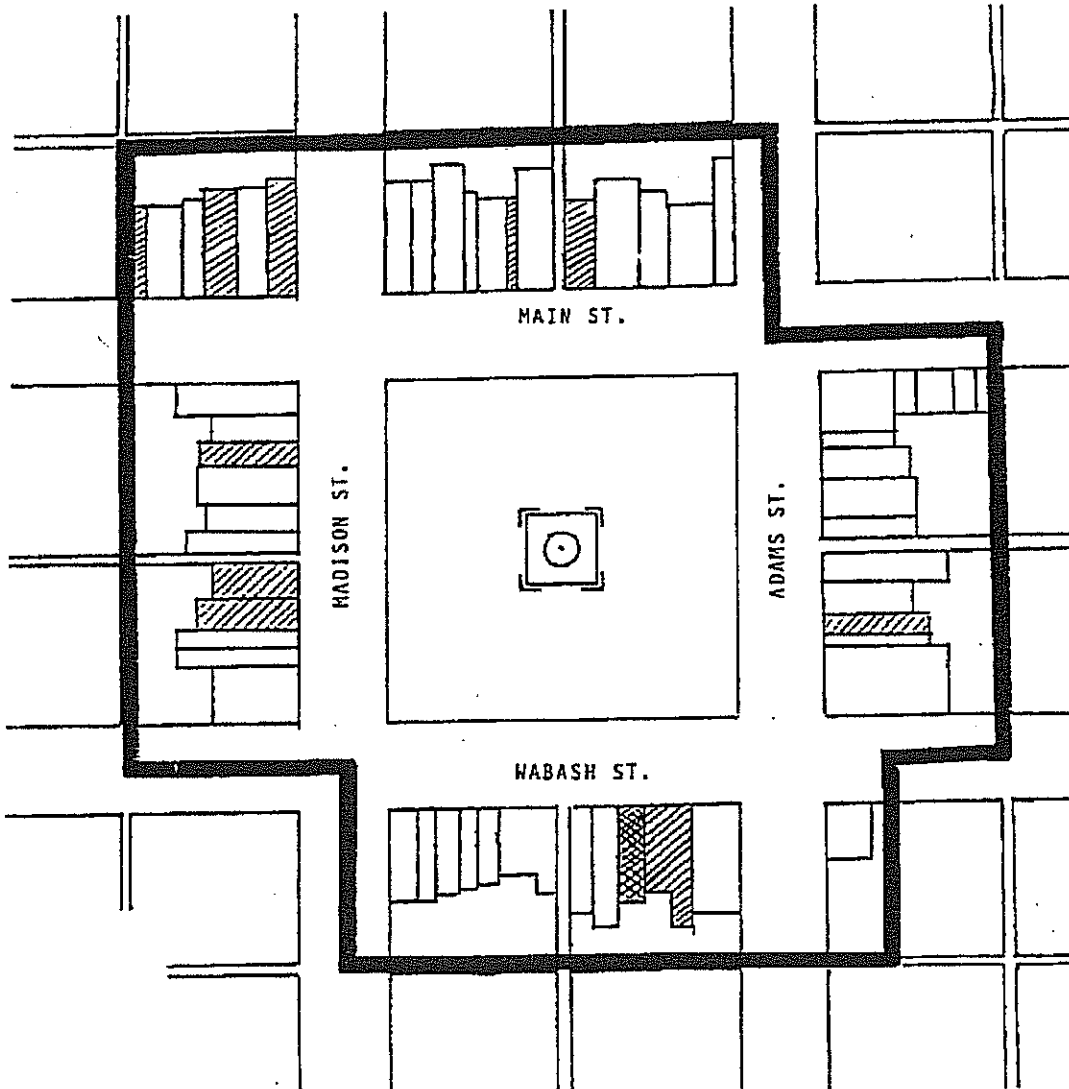


CARTHAGE
COURTHOUSE SQUARE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

CARTHAGE, ILLINOIS



9. Major Bibliographical References

History of Hancock County, Illinois, T. H. Gregg, C.C. Chapman Co., Chicago, 1880.
Carthage College and The City of Carthage, A.W. O'Harra, Carthage Republican Press,
 Carthage, Ill., 1895.
Biographical Review of Hancock County, Illinois, Hobart Publishing, Chicago, 1907
 Others listed in Section #9, continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property Approximately 10

Quadrangle name Carthage West, Ill.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A	1 5	6 5 8 1 0 0	4 4 7 5 2 0 0	B	1 5	6 5 8 3 0 0	4 4 7 5 2 0 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	1 5	6 5 8 3 2 0	4 4 7 4 9 1 0	D	1 5	6 5 8 1 6 0	4 4 7 4 9 0 0
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification See continuation sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert Christie

organization Preservation Services date April 11, 1986

street & number 1445 Hampshire telephone 317-224-2300

city or town Quincy state Illinois

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Robert Christie*

title Director

date June 20, 1986

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

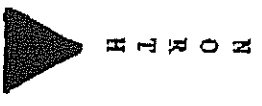
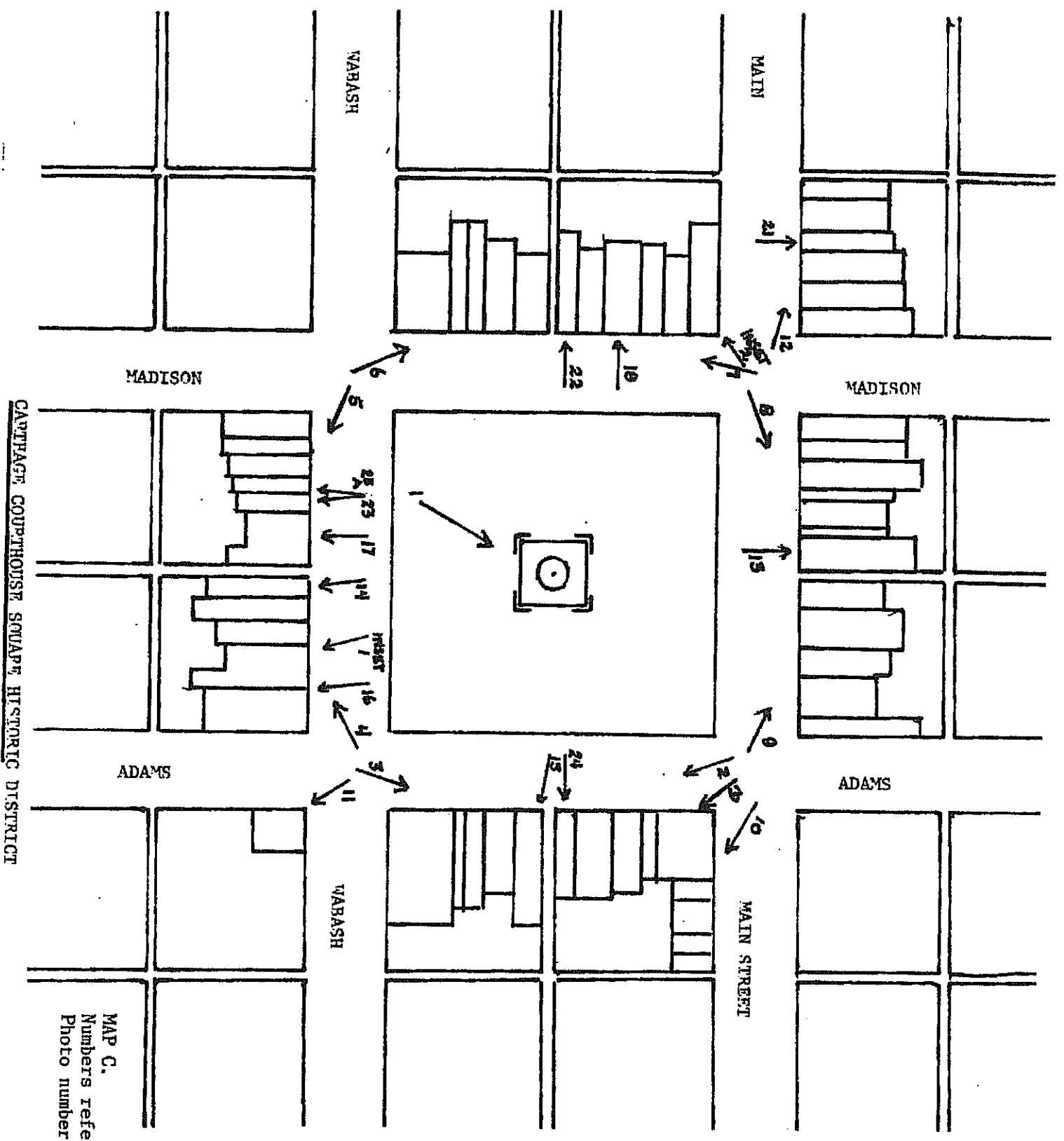
date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



MAP C.
Numbers refer to
Photo numbers

CARRIAGE COURT HOUSE SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Washington
ONB No. 1024-0018
Expires 10-31-87 7/1

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Carthage Courthouse Square Historic District
and/or common

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by alleys 1/2 block north of Main, 1/2 block east of Adams, 1/2 block south of Wabash, 1/2 block west of Madison. not for publication
city, town Carthage vicinity of
state Illinois code 012 county Hancock code 067

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Less than fifty owners — See Section 7 for present owner information
street & number
city, town vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Hancock County Clerk
street & number Hancock County Courthouse
city, town Carthage state Illinois

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Illinois Historic Structures Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date October 1972 federal state county local
depository for survey records Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
city, town Springfield, state Illinois

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Carthage, Illinois Courthouse Square Historic District consists of nine commercial quarter-blocks and two outside corners surrounding the central courthouse block. The courthouse square itself is centrally situated in the town of Carthage. Panoramically, the square presents a progression of commercial and public architecture from Greek Revival to Art Deco typical to the midwest "town-square" during the 1856-1923 period. Boundaries of the district are formed by the mid-block alleys behind the commercial buildings facing the courthouse block.

Carthage is located dead center in Hancock County at a point thirteen miles east of the Mississippi River, its west border. Illinois Highway #136 runs east-west through the town two blocks north of the courthouse square. Illinois #94 intersects with #136 at the east edge of Carthage, runs north-south, and forms the boundary between residential east Carthage and the beginning of farmland to the east. Topographically Carthage sits in the center of a 20-mile radius flat prairie described by the University of Illinois as the richest upland agricultural acreage in Illinois.

Architecturally, Carthage boasts a surprising array of neatly maintained late Victorian residential buildings with strong vernacular expression. The population of approximately 3500 is stabilized by the presence of Robert Morris College (formerly Carthage College, Lutheran.) It has been a fixture in Carthage since 1870. Commerce of Carthage is now, and always has been, geared to supply goods and services to the surrounding agricultural community and to the college. It also supports the administrative needs of the county government and judicial system.

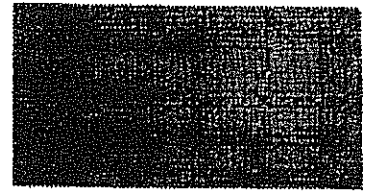
The courthouse square is delineated by Main Street on the north, Wabash on the south, Madison on the west, and Adams on the east (See Map 2.) The town is laid out generally in a rectilinear grid pattern, with these four streets running to each end of town. The courthouse district surrounds the courthouse block and extends one-half block deep to the alleys bisecting the surrounding blocks. Each of the blocks is bisected both east-west and north-south, forming eight quarter blocks facing the courthouse (See Map 2, Photos 2 through 10.) Included in the district are buildings on the southeast outside corner and the northwest outside corner of the square (Photos 11 and 12.) All the buildings on the square perimeter face inward toward the courthouse.

Centerpiece of the square is the 1908 Beaux Arts three-story courthouse. It features four corner pavilion domes and an elevated center dome sitting above a clock and bell tower with a twelve-foot figure of justice as the finial. The courthouse measures 80 feet by 80 feet and has four facades facing the cardinal directions. A muted but distinctive interior features art glass panels and an art-glass back-lit rotunda ceiling and encaustic tile floors on three levels. Now Carthage's third courthouse, it sits in the center of a spacious, well-landscaped 3-acre block.

The courthouse square has always been the focal point of commercial activity in Carthage. However, development of north-south and east-west highways through town has caused commercial strips to evolve along the highway corridors in recent years. But the strength of the business establishment and courthouse-stimulated activities around the square keeps further development on the commercial strips at a minimum.

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Each side of the square presents a cohesive appearance caused by the gradually changing styles of architecture during the town's transitions. Earliest remaining structure is the 1856 Greek Revival Masonic/Odd Fellows Hall (Photo 13) latest in the period of significance is the austere and rather severe 1923 vernacular commercial Journal Building (Photo 11). All contributing buildings in the district are masonry, principally red clay brick. The reds of the bricks are slightly darker in the buildings built later in the square development, and the later bricks were blended harder and laid up with narrower mortar joints. Most of the buildings are two or three-story commercial buildings with only five altered so extensively as to be non-contributing. Only three of those are altered so completely as to be unrecognizable. In these cases, two are nearly completely reversible and could shed aluminum or stucco skins to once again add original facades to the streetscapes. Only one modern steel building has encroached visibly on the square. It replaced the oldest frame structure which burned approximately twenty years ago.

Storefront widths vary from 3 to 10 bays. Principal of the styles are Italianate (14), Romanesque (4), and vernacular commercial (24). Many of them demonstrate the developing talents of a father-son architectural team, George and Edgar Payne (1875-1920).* Many of the storefronts have been altered by covering original details with aluminum, plywood, and later masonry stylizations cataloging several post World War II merchandising schemes. The surprise, however, is the number which have original elements remaining as a portion of the storefront. A few shopfronts feature large expanses of aluminum-framed plate glass from the 1950's and 1960's. Almost all buildings in the district's original upper facades, or at least a masonry frieze, are intact. In many cases corbelling, consoling, and other masonry ornament mix with wood, stamped metal, or cast detail elements. Block-by-block, the regularity of cornice and window height is apparent, giving each half block its own identity from a fairly tight period of development.

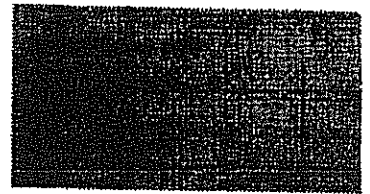
There are three other public buildings on the square. One on the south side of the square until recently was the city hall/fire station combined. It was originally a Romanesque Revival three-story building and is now connected to a two-story 1900 vernacular commercial building which serves as the city library. The library now has a new storefront with abbreviated plate glass above modern red brick aprons, and its second-floor windows are infilled with the same brick. The three-story fire station side has its second and third floor arched windows infilled with the upper two floors stuccoed. Its original pyramidal roof which sat above an open columned bell tower has been removed and roofed flat. The first floor fire station stone segmented arched doorway has been infilled with modern red brick. The other public building, which was built in 1866 with a vernacular classical appearance as the sheriff's house, retains its integrity and still serves as the sheriff's office.

The overall aspect of the square is one of completeness. There is only one vacant lot, a mini-park next to the library. All of the remaining square is occupied with second or third generation brick commercial buildings. Most are two story and

*The combined careers of George and Edgar Payne in Carthage spanned this period.

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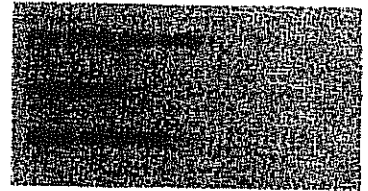
in generally good to excellent repair. All are occupied but one (the Cutler Hotel Supper Club closed in just the last 60 days) for retail, service, or governmental operations. The original buildings around the square had been one or two-story frame structures, with a few log and brick exceptions. Half had been residences, many with attached businesses at the side or rear. The homes had some styling, mostly Federal or Greek Revival. The early commercial buildings frequently had square facades concealing gabled roofs behind.

Immediately evident in the square district is the universal use of brick masonry, consistent massing, and gradual variations of styles reflecting the periods in which the square's original buildings were replaced. There is a strong sense of commercial stability from the development in the last thirty years of the 19th century and the early part of the 20th century. There is also evident a growing sophistication in design preferences in the more imposing buildings. This sophistication is due to the influence of the Paynes' who introduced a unique, quiet elegance (Photo 25) to the rural county seat and contributed to an unmistakable sense of place.

Listed below are the buildings which sufficiently conform to criteria to contribute to the district. They were built during the period 1856-1923. Sufficient integrity, style, and expression remains to add strength to the visual continuity of the district. Massing and fenestration, as well as upper facade, storefront, and cornice detail, use of materials, workmanship, and percentage of remaining original appearance and appropriateness of alterations were factors considered in determining the contribution of a building to this district.

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Buildings which contribute to the significance of the Carthage Courthouse Square Historic District follow: (Building numbers refer to Map B.)

1. 55 S. Adams
Block 17 lot 3
Name: McMahan-Walker Building; Geo. W. Payne & Son, Architects
Built: 1896

Type: Romanesque Revival

Owner/Builder: Thomas McMahan, Charles Walker

This is a nine-bay, two-story commercial block with a Romanesque Revival stone segmental arched entry between two principal storerooms and on a corner lot. Arched second floor windows alternate with square-lintelled windows to carry out the building's stylistic reference. An oriel hangs over the entry. Arched clerestory windows on the Main Street side reiterate the stylistic quality of the building. The original storefronts were punctuated with cast decorative columns and other elements. McMahan and Walker opened their clothing store in the corner storeroom in their new building in August, 1896. Advertised as the "Big Store," the complete lines of men's wear and their expansive display room closed just two years after opening. With the partnership dissolved, Walker continued business until early in the 1920s. Both McMahan and Walker were born of successful farm families that had arrived in Hancock County in the 1830s. The building has a 72-foot frontage and three shopfronts on Adams Street. It is 90-feet deep on Main. Originally, and still today, the second floor sixteen rooms were arranged into office suites and one apartment, though they are not presently occupied. The second floor rooms were until approximately 25 years ago occupied by lawyers and doctors, and for a brief period by governmental offices. In the beginning the building was steam-heated and had its own gasoline-powered electric generator for its own electrical system. Early first floortenants included Carthage Marble and Granite, Business Exchange Real Estate, Artist Harry Evans, Parker Dry Goods, Hendricks Overland Agency, consumer Home Oil Co., Swain & Son Music Store, Berry Jewelers, and two wallpaper and paint stores. Law firms occupying the building have included Hooker and Son; Lemmon and McMahan; Hooker, Plantz, and Hartzell (the beginning of a long dynasty by the Hartzell family of lawyers, still with two practicing generations in Carthage. The Hartzells have been since the mid-1850s one of the continuously most influential families invoved in local politics and finance. They established the Marine Bank, so-named after the World War I death of young Phillip Hartzell in France while serving as a U.S. Marine.) Charles Garnet; and Samuel Naylor I. Doctors have included E.K. Boston, dentist; Eleanor Peery, M.D.; Dora Bower Eckles, M.D.

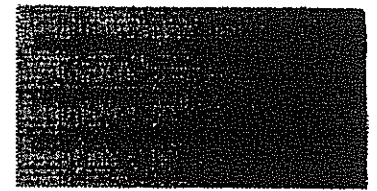
(Photo 19)

Present Use: Law offices, insurance office, first floor; storage, upper floor

Present Owner: Capps, Ancelet, Stoverink, Attorneys, Carthage

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2. 59 S. Adams
Block 17 lot 3
Name: Tyler Building
Built: 1890
Type: Commercial

Owner/Builder: Charles Tyler

This is a one-story three-bay building with new plate glass encased in extruded aluminum but with original cast columns remaining. The space occupied by this building was originally Cunningham's Blacksmith Shop, a pioneer service on the square. It remained while two generations of buildings were built around it. Finally it was demolished as a decrepit frame structure, and the empty space remained for several years until in 1890 with two buildings flanking the empty lot John Sample and John McMahan built a simple roof arrangement between the two buildings and used the resulting space for a crude carpenter shop. About 1910 Charles Tyler added a proper facade and inner walls, and with all the proper appointments opened a jewelry business. Later a pastry shop operated here successfully.

Present Use: Insurance Office

Present Owner: Marlin Long, Carthage

- 3/4. 65-67 Adams
Block 17 lot 4
Name: Welch Building
Built: 1902
Type: Commercial

Owner/Builder: John Welch

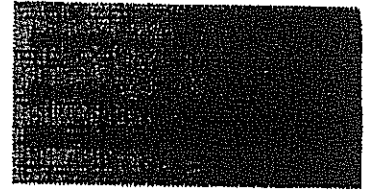
Building 3 is a two-story three-bay building with its original decorative cast-iron store front. The second story features a pair of oriels separated by a roofed balconet with a wrought iron balustrade. Clerestory windows on the first floor have been plywood-covered and an aluminum awning covers the entire storefront. Building 4 is almost identical except that the original storefront has been replaced with slanted plate-glass display windows. Welch was a career 21-year clerk with Carthage's largest and most successful grocery store, Nick Helfrich and Co. Welch then operated his own grocery here in the south half (67 S.) until his death in 1938. In 1909 Welch also became Mayor of Carthage. Among other improvements, he added decorative lighting to the town square. The north side of the building was built a year later and has always been a restaurant, becoming known chiefly as the Sugar Bowl. The oriels being placed around the square on buildings designed by the Paynes were duplicated here, although they do not match each other. Apartments above both storerooms have always been occupied as apartments.

Present Uses: Restaurant, both sides; apartments up both sides

Present Owners: Darrell Plumley, Leota Ballard

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71 S. Adams
Block 17 lot 4
Name: Dime Bank
Built: 1902

Type: Commercial, Geo. W. Payne & Son, Architects
Owner/Builder: O.F. and M.B. Berry

Built as a bank by the influential Berry brothers, the Dime Bank is built of buff Milwaukee tapestry brick; its floors are blue and grey tile throughout. Mahogany counters still sit atop granite counter faces. The bank vault remains a storage area. Two small porticos on the facade provided twin entrances to the bank. The Mississippi Valley Telephone Company was an original tenant in the rear of the building. The two porticos remains, supported by Tuscan columns, and are very similar in style and scale to the oriels added by the Paynes to two other buildings on the square during the same period, the McMahan-Walker building and the Foulds building. The telephone company had a separate entrance on the south side off the alley. This entrance was also flanked by Tuscan columns. O.F. Berry later became Mayor and had brick laid in the streets surrounding the square. He served as state senator from 1888 to 1908. He gave the first \$500 to establish the public library in Carthage. In 1932 the bank failed. The Farm Bureau bought the building at that time and has occupied it since. A lower level shop is approached from a front set of steps down from the sidewalk. It has been occupied by various small service businesses, such as barbers, beauty salons. One large lower-level room is used for public gatherings. (Photo 24)

Present Use: Farm Bureau
Present Owner: Farm Bureau

6

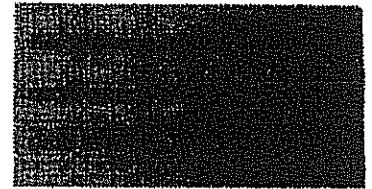
73 S. Adams
Block 17 lot 5
Name: Masonic Lodge, Geo. W. Payne & Son, Architects
Built: 1887

Type: Commercial
Owner/Builder: Loyal Order of Masons

The is a four-bay two story brick building with classical second floor window cornices and a center single-door entrance flanked by Doric Tuscan columns. The second home of the Masons and Order of Eastern Star, this building originally had a pyramidal roof like the Opera House and Fire station. It also had a large arched attic window in the center of the upper facade. The ground floor was in the beginning occupied by the McKee implement dealership with side entrances off the alley. The building was damaged by fire in 1924; it was at this time it lost its pyramidal roof and conspicuous arched window. It was also at this time that the Masons built another building off the square. From that time

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the telephone company has occupied the building until 1985, when it was purchased and occupied by the Hancock County Health Department. More notes in the "Significance" text. (Photo 15)

Present Use: County Health Department

Present Owner: Hancock County

7. 81 S. Adams
Block 17 lot 5
Name: Reyer Building, E. A. Payne, Architect
Type: Commercial
Built: 1906
Owner/Builder: Fred Reyer

This is a two-story three-bay brick commercial building with a double segmental-arched center window on the second floor. An elevated center cornice section is flanked by a slotted brick cornice on either side. The storeroom entry is recessed, as originally. This building was built to house two commercial operations on the first floor and a skating rink/dance hall with hard maple floors on the second floor. Reyer operated his plumbing and heating business on the first floor and rented out the rear for warehouse space. The south half for many years was a cleaning establishment. Reyer had the plumbing and heating contract for the present courthouse. He was instrumental in building the Carthage water and sewer plants.

Present Use: Insurance office, barber shop down; storage up.

Present Owner: American Legion, Carthage

9. 91 S. Adams
Block 17 lot 6
Name: Rams Building
Built: 1895
Type: Commercial
Owner/Builder: Henry Rams

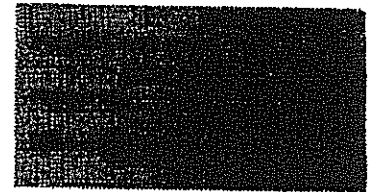
This is a two-story two-bay building with two segmental arched second-floor windows composed of center double-hung and two stationary sidelights. The storefront has a side entry and original display window aprons, although the original cast columns are missing. Rams was a builder. He built this building to house a popular new entertainment. It was for a number of years the Davis Brothers' Bijou Theatre and Music Store. The facade of the building was to closely match the Johnson Building next door.

Present Use: Magazine, newspaper store

Present Owner: Newsland Corp., Burlington, Iowa

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10. 97 S. Adams
Block 17 lot 6
Name: Johnson Block
Built: 1894
Type: Commercial

Owner/Builder: Homer Johnson

This building is an austere two-story four-bay commercial building with narrow cast columns flanking the store entry and separating the shop display windows. The cornice is unornamented. The building was built and operated for nine years by Johnson as a livery stable. The building had its own windmill and water tanks for its horses. It served many years as a furniture store and mortuary, later as an automobile dealership and garage.

Present Use: Firestone Store, first floor; storage, second floor

Present Owner: Tom Menn, Carthage

11. 604 Wabash
Block 26 lot 4
Name: Journal Building
Built: 1923
Type: Commercial

Owner/Builder: John Beckman

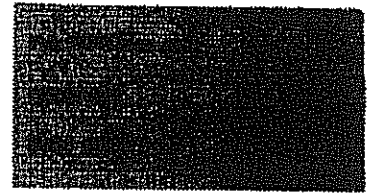
This is a two-story five-bay brick building with a plain brick inset panel as a cornice ornament. There is no storefront, as the first floor was always offices and workspace. In the center of the second floor, which originally was an apartment, is a balcony which is accessible by a single door. The building was built on the site of an original Carthage square family home operated in later years as a boarding house. The building was built to house the local county weekly newspaper. During the second ownership of the newspaper under Don Forsythe, the Journal became Carthage's only newspaper. Forsythe became one of the most influential local citizens and was made International President of Kiwanis. He was founder of a hearing clinic at Michael Reese Hospital and has been Carthage's most famous citizen in recent years as a result. (Photo 11)

Present Use: Job printing shop

Present Owner: Mrs. Don Forsythe, Carthage

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12. 536 Wabash
Block 25 lot 1
Name: Odd Fellows Block
Built: 1894
Type: Italianate

Owner/Builder: International Order of Odd Fellows

This is a three-story, five-bay brick building which is entirely original, including cast storefront elements, art nouveau clerestory glass and display window apron ornament. Second and third floor windows are segmental arched with limestone keystones. The cornice is original in all respects, is pressed metal, and is center pedimented. The foundation stone work and the first floor masonry work were contracted out by the Odd Fellows. All remaining work was done by members of the lodge. In the beginning the first floor storerooms were occupied by a grocery store on one side and a dry goods store on the other. Later these rooms served for years as the post office and a bowling alley. The second floor was originally law offices and a banquet room; and the third floor served as ante, reception, regalia, banquet, and lodge rooms. Today all upper rooms are used for storage only. (Photo 16)

Present Use: Insurance office, west; television sales/service, east
Present Owner: Jack Hulen, Carthage

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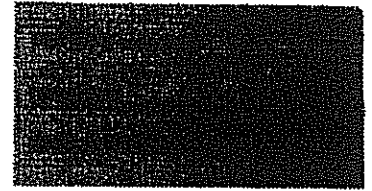
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16. 544 Wabash
Block 25 lot 2
Name: Foulds Building, G.W. Payne & Son, Architects
Built: 1907
Type: Commercial
Owner/Builder: Joe Foulds
This is a three-story, two-bay brick building. It has a center cornice panel which projects above the cornice, reminiscent of the McMahan-Walker Building (3) and the Taylor Block (#23) and the Owsley Building (#30.) The second floor features an oriel seen several other times around the square. Originally built as a bowling alley on the ground floor, the building served two early purposes. A chinese handyman who worked at the bowling alley also ran a laundry in the basement. After the initial bowling fad waned, the building served as Carthage's silent movie house. With the advent of talkies a larger auditorium was needed. Foulds was born in Rockford of English parents and moved to Carthage in 1865. As an adult he established and operated a brick yard. In connection with the brick business he also moved houses during the rebuilding periods of the square. The second and third floors provided fine apartments.
Present Use: Unoccupied two years, endangered
Present Owner: Mrs. & Mrs. Richard Glick, Warsaw
17. 528 Wabash
Block 25 lot 2
Name: Sheriff's House
Built: 1866
Type Vernacular Georgian
Owner/Builder: Hancock County
This is a three-bay two-story brick hall-and-parlor double-pile vernacular Georgian house with a lateral gabled roof. Eaves on four sides are bracketted, and a Colonial Revival porch was added to the facade around 1900. The building sits back 14 feet from the sidewalk marking the normal setback of the first generation of residences on the square. The building sits on the site of the first Hancock County courthouse, a log structure built in 1833. This jail replaced the first stone jail two blocks northwest of the square. The stone jail had been the scene of the murder of Joseph and Hyrum Smith, leaders of the Nauvoo Mormons. This building was built as a sheriff's residence and jail. It remains a sheriff's office and jail; but a new jail is under construction several blocks from the square and will be occupied within a year. This building then will have no further

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county function and will be considered a liability. At present the building has not received maintenance for the past ten years; it should now be considered endangered. The county plans its demolition. (Photo 14)

Present Use: Sheriff's office, county-city jail

Present Owner: Hancock County

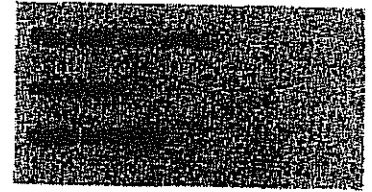
18. 520 Wabash
Block 25 lot 3
Name: Cutler Hotel
Built: 1876

Type: Italianate; Commercial addition, G.W. Payne, Architect
Owner/Builder: John Dee Stevens

This is a ten-bay three story brick Italianate building with a simple corbelled brick cornice. The original building was the west seven bays. The center entry pavillion of the original building extends slightly above the cornice line. It has a corbelled arch just above the third floor center window in which the name of the hotel was attached in iron letters. The second and third floor windows of the entry pavillion had ornamental iron balustraded balconets. The building having been built in 1876 was first named the Centennial Hotel. John Stevens was immediate past sheriff when he built the hotel. He was 50 years of age. He had had no previous experience in the hotel business. He had travelled widely in search of a career in his younger days. He lived as a roustabout in California, Mexico, and Texas for several years. He finally returned home to a Carthage farm at age 30, when he married and settled down. As a deputy sheriff in 1847 he served the arrest papers on the Mormons at Nauvoo. He was both an avid anti-Mormon and Democrat. Though precise identification was never made, he may well have been one of the murderers of Joseph and Hyrum Smith in the Carhage jail. The Hotel was also known as the Stevens House. Its interior and furnishings were reputed to have been second to none. In 1880 Stevens was elected to the state general assembly, serving one term. He became Postmaster of Carthage under President Cleveland. He also maintained three of four farms. In 1886 his health began to fail, and he rented the hotel to Howard Cutler, son of a prominent druggist on the north side of the square. In 1889 the Cutlers purchased the 24-room hotel which had always been a commercial success. The name changed to Cutler Hotel at that time. In 1893 Cutler added to the east side a building half the size of the original. This expanded the rooms from 24 "sleeping apartments" to 36. At the same time Cutler advertised "elegant new bath rooms with hot and cold artesian water. Toilet rooms are conveniently located." The advertisement in the Republican was large and exciting. At the same time a complete redecorating was done. The first floor of the new addition was occupied by the post office and Helfrich Tailor shop. Cutler was a member of the city council for 12 years. He worked tirelessly for the improvement

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of the square and the town in general. Subsequent to the Cutler ownership there were several owners and several separate leases on the ground floor, generally in the restaurant business. Just recently a speculator restaurant operator went broke, and the hotel was auctioned. The auction price of \$12,500 has not been accepted by the owner. Recent years and the auction price have removed all memory of the glittering reputation this fine hotel had brought to Carthage for several generations. (Photo 17)

Present Use: Unoccupied, endangered
Present Owner: James Dietz, Carthage

19. 516 Wabash
Block 25 lot 3
Name: Helfrich Building
Built: 1875
Type: Italianate
Owner/Builder: Joseph Helfrich

This is a two-story three-bay building of brick with a vernacular brick corbelled cornice. Its second floor windows are round-arched with brick corbelled hoods and limestone keystones. The original storefront is intact in all respects with a double-door entry. Born and reared in Germany, Joseph Helfrich came to Carthage in 1858 to avoid compulsory military service in the old country. Once here he took up the Union Cause and served in the Civil War, seeing continuous action throughout the war. After the war he opened a meat market, finally having this building built for the same purpose. The building later was used as a blacksmith's shop/garage (which accounts for the doors) and finally as a battery shop. (Photo 23)

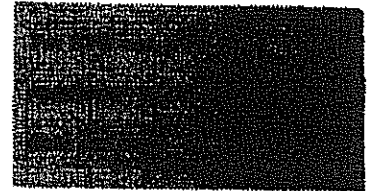
Present Use: Battery shop, first floor; storage, upper floor
Present Owner: Frank Statler, Carthage

20. 512 Wabash
Block 25 lot 3
Name: Patterson Building
Built: 1875
Type: Italianate
Ownr/Builder: W.W. Patterson

This is a two-story, four-bay brick Itlianate building with vernacular corbelled cornice. Second floor and shop windows and entry are corbelled brick and round-arched. The keystones are carved limestone. The original storefront is intact and may represent one of the most completely original buildings on the square. The most successful grocery operation

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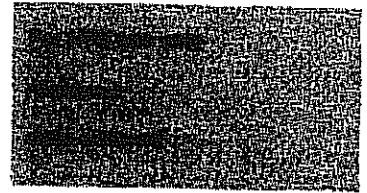
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the Carthage square ever had began here. It was in the beginning a partnership between J. B. Paterson and Nick Helfrich. Built by the Patterson who was the owner of the old hotel on the west corner of the block, the building served the grocery until 1888. At that time Helfrich built his own store on the west side of the square and dissolved the partnership. Patterson continued for a while. Among later tenants were several restaurants, including the Cherrill Inn. It was run by L. C. Cherrill, descendant of early Carthage banker Anton Cherrill. The original arcaded storefront remains. (Photo 23a)
Present Use: Antiques store, first floor; storage, upper floor
Present owner: John Fecht, RR Carthage

21. 508 Wabash
Block 25 lot 4
Name: Matthews Building
Built: 1892
Type: Commercial
Owner/Builder: A.B. and Edward Matthews
This is a two story four-bay brick commercial building with a brick corbelled cornice. The original tall narrow square-lintelled windows on the second floor have been replaced with shorter aluminum double sliding windows of uneven lengths. The original cast iron prefabricated double-shopfront is intact. This building was built as an income property and first occupied by the Carey Furniture Co. on the first floor and by the Sharp and Berry law offices on the second. After five years the furniture business was replaced by Taylor and Edwards Hardware. This firm used the entire building then for fifty-five years. Prior to entering the hardware business Taylor and Edwards, brothers-in-law, had run a livery stable at the rear of the Patterson House Hotel next door west on the corner. Taylor and Edwards installed Carthage's first elevator at the rear of this building for transporting hardware to the second floor storage area.
Present Use: Main Cleaners, east; Main Finance, west; apartment up
Present Owner: Jerry Main, Carthage
22. 500 Wabash
Block 25 lot 4
Name: Opera House
Built: 1892
Type: Commercial, GW. Payne, Architect
Owner/Builder:
This is a two story six-bay brick building which was totally reworked

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in 1919 for new uses for the new owner, the Marine Bank. All windows are square-lintelled. A simple corbelled brick cornice remains. Large plate glass windows are on both facades of the first floor, as this is a corner building. For twenty-five years the Rand Furniture and Carpet store occupied the first floor of this handsome commercial building which was built with high style. The second floor was occupied by doctors' offices and law offices, and the third floor was used for entertainments. The opening attraction August 23, 1893 was the local Hallelujah Chorus, followed by professional troops, such as the "Fast Mail" Company which brought with them their scenery. The "Fast Mail" group also presented a pyrotechnic display in connection with their appearance which required special safety precautions. The local dramatic club presented its plays here, and large gatherings of the Odd Fellows were held here just prior to their building their own new quarters on the other end of the same block. The Nelson-Halmon Comedy Company was the main attraction in 1906. As the new movie business grew, the opera house was used less and less. When in 1919 the Marine Bank bought the building, it removed the top floor and the entry pavillion to the upper floors. That pavillion had carried most of the style and ornamentation for the building with a strong arched entry and other embellishment. Also the normal shopfront arrangements gave way to new expanses of plate glass for the bank function, rather than shop use. The Carthage Republican of March 2, 1892 had stated before the new opera house was built "drawings show a building that will be a credit to the city. The front elevation is decidedly handsome."

Present Use: Marine Bank and Trust

Present Owner: Marine Bank and Trust, Carthage

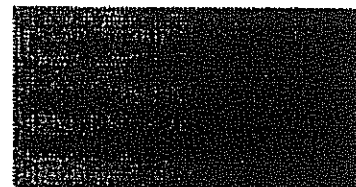
23. 98 S. Madison
Block 19 lot 6
Name: Taylor Block
Built: 1896
Type: Commercial

Owner/Builder: Charles Taylor

This is an eight-bay, two-story commercial brick building. It has segmental arched second floor windows, except the center two which are eyebrow-arched. A center raised title panel projects above the checkerboard-corbelled cornice. Uniform plate glass shop windows replace original shopfronts. The principal shop has a corner recessed entry. Taylor came to Carthage from Kentucky in 1856 and clerked in a store until the Civil War. After his enlistment in the War he returned to start a grocery business. He made a real success at it for many years. In 1896 he built this building as an income property and to house his son's feed business. Upon completion the building was occupied by the Emerich and Owsley Clothing Company. A second shop next to the clothing shop was run by J.H. Woodburn who sold boots and shoes; and the third store on the north end of the facade served as the Griffith-Hatch bookstore and E.P. Stewart Jewelry Store. The

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C.D. Taylor feed store occupied a store room around the corner on the Wabash side of the building. The second floor rooms were used for offices. The year Taylor completed the building he became Postmaster. Aldolphus Owsley became Carthage's largest clothing merchant here, died without heirs, and left the bulk of his estate to the public library.

Present Use: ladies' discount clothing, south; auction/real estate, north; storage, upper floor

Present Owner: Mike Kelly, Carthage

24. 90 S. Madison
Block 19 lot 6
Name: Callahan Building
Built: 1888
Type: Italianate

Owner/Builder: Dr. James Callahan

This is a two story three-bay brick building with vernacular corbelled arched panelled brick cornice. Brick pilaster flank the sides of the building to the top of the cornice. The pilaster cap at the cornice and at the top of the shop front have carved stone faces and stylized consoles as features. Second floor windows are brick segmental arched. Plywood and aluminum replace that original storefront. From a Kentucky-Irish parentage James Callahan received his medical training at Rush Medical School in Chicago and Bellevue College in New York. He moved to Carthage in 1870. His practice was very extensive in the community. He also owned a fairly large farm in Hancock County. He built this building for his offices on the second floor. His first floor tenant to begin with was Emrich and Owsley Clothing which later moved to the larger quarters next door in the Taylor Block. In 1907 Callahan's son-in-law started the Nickel Novelty Store and Electric Theatre - "Everyone 5¢." Later the first floor was the Lawrence Hardware. This building was built simultaneously with its twin to the north.

Present Use: Real Estate office, ground floor; storage, upper floor

Present Owner: Don Sullivan, Carthage

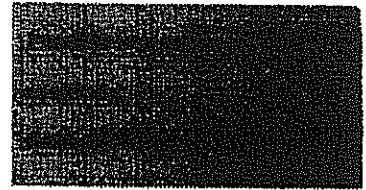
25. 86 S. Madison
Block 19 lot 6
Name: Helfrich Building
Built: 1888
Type: Italianate

Owner/Builder: N. J. Helfrich

Nick Helfrich from Alsace-Lorraine was one of Carthage's most popular citizens. As a child he immigrated to Carthage in 1858. He entered the

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grocery business in the Patterson building on the south side of the square in 1874 next door to his cousin's meat market. His was the most successful grocery business in town. He was active in all civic affairs. One of his sons became a prominent local banker. Another son was in the grocery partnership. Helfrich was an active Odd Fellow and he headed up the building of the new lodge building on the southeast corner of the square.

Present Use: Record-video shop, ground floor; storage, upper floor
Present Owner: Erika Cady, Carthage

28. 70 S. Madison
Block 19 lot 8
Name: Selover Building
Built: 1867
Type: Italianate

Owner/Builder: J.B. Quimby

Probably the best preserved building on the square is the Quimby-Selover Building. Only an oversized Rexall sign covering parts of the clerestory windows obstructs any of the original facade. The south side of the building is covered with stucco and has had steel shutters added. The building is in a fine state of repair. It is a three story four-bay building with a simple bracketed wood cornice. Its facade corners are brick-quoined. Third floor windows are segmental brick-arched. Second floor windows are brick eyebrow-arched. The original shopfront remains completely intact, including cast iron columns flanking the recessed entry, awning, and display window aprons in carved sunburst pattern. The ground floor was built for a clothing store by J. B. Quimby who remained in business only a year. He then moved a block north and opened a buggy business. The second and third floors were used as offices and a hall respectively. (Photo 22)

Present Use: Drug Store, first floor; storage, second and third floors
Present Owner: McHugh Drug Co., Carthage

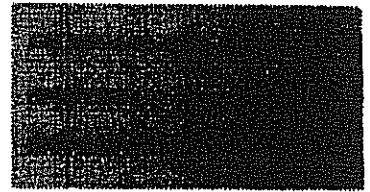
29. 64 S. Madison
Block 19 lot 8
Name: Markilie Building
Built: 1868
Type: Italianate

Owner/Builder: William Dale

This is a three story three-bay brick building with a brick corbelled simple cornice. The third floor windows are eyebrow arched. Second floor windows which matched have been replaced by square-lintelled aluminum-clad double windows. The original store front has been replaced by aluminum. Dale built this building for his dry goods business

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before he built several doors to the south in 1875. The building was then sold to Duffy and Wetzel who operated a livery here, moving it from next door south off the alley. In 1893 the building burnt and had a newer facade added. Griffith and Hatch operated a book store in one half of the single storefront and shared space with E.P. Stewart jewelry. In 1898 Dr. Markilie bought the building and embellished the facade with an iron balcony, and added a third floor for apartments.
Present Use: Paint store, ground floor; storage, upper floors
Present Owner: Don Welch, Carthage

30. 10 S. Madison
Block 19 lot 8
Name: Owsley Building, Geo. W. Payne & Son, Architects
Built: 1898
Type: Romanesque Revival
Owner/Builder: Erasmus Quimby

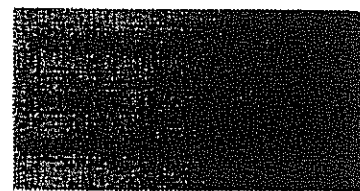
This is a two and one-half story seven-bay brick commercial building. It has a raised center corbelled cornice with corner piers. A large lunette is a feature of the attic level under the center cornice. Outside pairs of second floor windows are eyebrow-arched. A small bulls-eye light is at the attic level above the inner stairway. As the July 6, 1898 Republican reports "...The front of this building will be unbroken with pillars and will be the handsomest in this part of the state." The distinctive facade merchandised the Quimby and Gill clothing business. Quimby had been in business in the opera house on the north corner and built this building with a new partner Edward Gill who had graduated from Carthage College just three years before. Erasmus Quimby was born in 1858, the son of a pioneer farmer and preacher. His success in Carthage allowed him to sell his business, move to California, and build one of the beautiful commercial buildings still in use in Los Angeles. The building remains substantially unchanged, except for a stone display window apron. In 1907 Emrich and Owsley bought out Quimby. (Photo 18)
Present Use: Men's, women's clothing, ground floor; storage upper floors
Present Owner: Dennis Royalty, Carthage

32. 8 S. Madison
Block 19 lot 9
Name: Williams Building
Built: 1880
Type: Vernacular Italianate
Owner/Builder: C. F. Williams

This is a simple, narrow three-bay two story vernacular building with very narrow tall second floor windows and a simple corbelled brick

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cornice. The original cast components and shop front configuration remain, but clerestory windows have been covered with plywood. This building replaced a small frame building which was one of the original businesses on the square. Built in 1880 by C. F. Williams for his jewelry operation, it was sold two years later to the J.M. Berry Jewelry Company. Williams traded the building for 80 acres of Hancock County farmland and \$1,000. The building was unique in its structural technique placing joists atop interior buttresses instead of in masonry pockets. In 1889 Leon Berry constructed a second floor on the building to house dressing rooms for the opera house next door, to give more seating capacity to the opera house. After about ten years the opera house was no longer used for its intended purpose and the upper floor was converted to offices.

Present Use: Abstract office and real estate office, ground floor;
apartment, upper floor

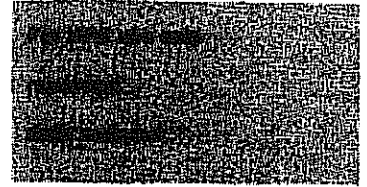
Present Owner: Nancy O'Harra, Carthage

33. 4. S. Madison
Block 19 lot 9
Name: Spitler Opera House
Built: 1881
Type: Italianate
Owner/Builder: Dr. Spitler

This is a very tall two-story four-bay brick Italianate building. It has a simple brick corbelled cornice, and its second floor two pairs of windows share heavy incised cast stone flared hoods. The shopfront is original with cast iron columns, secondary cornice, and recessed entry. Clerestory windows are covered with plywood. Built by McColm and Payne (George), the building served as an income property from Dr. Spitler. The first floor was occupied by Elder and Quimby Clothing Company; originally the opera house on the second floor was not finished and for two years the home guard rented the space as an armory. During a longer than expected stay the home guard built and painted the scenery that was later to be used in the opera house. The building that this one replaced was at the time about the oldest on the square and had been the offices of Dr. Evans, known to have been built about 1836. When the stage was built the opera house was the scene of local entertainments and travelling musicals. The opening attraction was by the Carthage Dramatic club who presented the play "Honour Before Wealth or the Romance of a Poor Young Man." The Kendall Troupe and Orchestra, dramatic readings by Emma Babbitt and Nellie Davis were some of the headliners at this opera house. One of the favorites was Holladay and Company Minstrels, composed of 24 "colored" artists. On January 11, 1888 the Republican announced that Holladay and Company would "parade the streets with a uniformed band at noon

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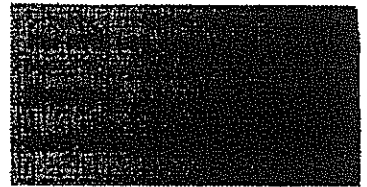
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headed by two drum majors" in ballyhooing their evening performances. The entire building was the first in Carthage to have gas/electric lighting. The risers of the stairs to the opera house were glass, back-lit with electric bulbs and each carrying a local advertisement. Present Use: Dress shop, first floor; storage, second floor. Present Owner: Nancy O'Harra, Carthage

35. 419 Main
Block 10 lot 6
Name: Scovern Building
Built: 1891
Type: Commercial
Ownr/Builder: Henry W. Scovern
This is a simple two-story, six-bay brick commercial building. The brick cornice features a lateral slotted row below a lateral single brick inset panel. The original storefront remains with large 2'x4' panes of glass making up the large display windows and clerestories and a single recessed entry, with each storefront separated by narrow cast columns. Built as a blacksmith shop and wagon sales store, the building later held Scovern's farm machinery business. Henry Rams later bought out Scovern and built buggies here. When automobiles caught on, Rams and E. P. Cutler opened a dealership and garage here. In 1918 William Smith of Bentley bought the building, laid the upstairs floor for storage, and opened an International Harvester dealership, which continues today.
Present Use: Implement dealership
Present Owner: Curtis Wilhite, Carthage
36. 423 Main
Block 10 lot 6
Name: Duffy Building
Built: 1895
Type: Commercial
Owner/Builder: John S. Duffy
This is a two-story, four bay commercial brick with double entry original garage-type doors. It has its original display windows and upper apartment sidewalk entrance door. An entry door on the second level opens onto a delicate balustraded balconet. The cornice of the building is corbelled brick. Built by the Matthews Brothers builders, this building opened as a feed store owned by John Duffy. Duffy also carried Case implements, Garland riding plows, and Moon buggies and road carts. The building is unchanged. (Photo 21)
Present Use: Implement store
Present Owner: Curtis Wilhite, Carthage

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38. 429 Main
Block 10 lot 7
Name: Ferris Building
Built: 1875
Type: Italianate
Owner/Builder: Hiram Ferris

This is an impressive and very tall two-story six-bay building with a complex series of corbelled arches below a panel which originally supported a metal cornice. The corners of the building are stone quoined with consoles as the cornice-level caps. Second floor windows are stone-arched and carved. The entire facade below the second floor windows is covered with stucco-stone. The president of the First National Bank of Carthage built this building as an income property. The Nace furniture and Undertaking business had outgrown its building at 427 Main, so Ferris built this building to lease to Nace in which to expand his business. The building has always housed a furniture business.

Present Use: Twaddle Furniture store
Present Owner: Keith Twaddle, Carthage

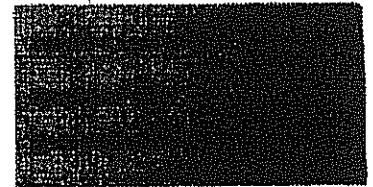
40. 501 Main
Block 11 lot 4
Name: Hunsacker Building
Built: 1864
Type: Italianate
Owner/Builder: G.J. Hunsacker

This is a two-story three-bay Italianate brick building. It has eyebrow arched second floor windows with limestone keystones. The corners of the storefront are brick-quoined. While the original storefront components have been replaced with simple plate glass, steel-framed, the original recessed entry configuration remains with flanking display windows. Hunsacker built the building for his grocery store. About four years later the post office occupied the building for a short time. When the post office moved Jacob Strader occupied the building for a grocery, hardware, kitchenwares, and feed operation which continued to the turn of the century. In 1892 a twin building was built next door by the Strader family.

Present Use: Dress store, first floor; storage, second floor
Present Owner: Leota Ballard, Carthage

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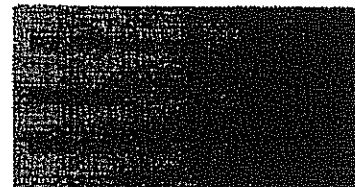
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41. 503 Main
Block 11 lot 4
Name: Strader Building
Built: 1892
Type: Italianate
Owner/Builder: Jacob Strader
Twin to the building just described. This building was built by the Straders as an income property and was first leased to the Elder Drug. Co. Later the building was occupied by the Benner Tea Company, later the Lunt Grocery, and still later the Ben Franklin Store. The second floor for many years was occupied by Judge David Mack and his son Edward Mack, both attorneys.
Present Use: Gift Shop, first floor; storage, upper floor
Present Owner: Leota Ballard, Carthage
42. 505 Main
Block 11 lot 4
Name: Culkin Block
Built: 1877
Type: Italianate
Owner/Builder: John Culkin
This is a six-bay two-story brick commercial building. It has a brick panelled cornice with a center brick pediment. Second floor windows are brick segmental arched with limestone carved keystones. Present storefront retains its original double recessed entries, although modern plate glass steel-trimmed replaces the original detail. One of the true community leaders from the time he arrived in Carthage in 1868, John Culkin had been born in Ireland. His strong personality and thrift caused his business to prosper quickly and he outgrew his early business places. He built this building as a haberdashery and one of the largest storerooms in Carthage. He accumulated wealth and farmland and became owner of one of the largest acreages in Hancock County. Cost of the building was about \$6,000. Culkin was a community leader in all enterprises.
Present Use: Ben Franklin Store
Present Owner: Jon Gerardi, Columbia, Mo.
43. 511 Main
Block 11 lot 4
Name: Randolph Building
Built: 1875
Type: Italianate
Owner/Builder: James Randolph
Originally this three-bay brick two-story building had a projecting wood cornice. It is no longer there, though three brick panels remain below

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the denuded cornice base. The second floor eyebrow arched windows have limestone keystones. The entire storefront has been cheaply "modernized" with plywood and aluminum. A physician from Pennsylvania, Dr. James Randolph settled and practiced in Schuyler County, where he became involved in politics. After becoming Illinois State Representative, he gave up medicine and opened a mercantile business in Plymouth, Hancock County. So Successful was his business there that he opened a branch in Carthage. Business was so good in Carthage that he moved there in 1867. He was a champion of the temperance movement and fought for the abolition of liquor sales in Carthage. At a cost of \$5,000 he built his new building, and the same year he built several other types of buildings in Carthage. He was an ardent backer of Carthage College and was one of Carthage's moral and religious leaders.

Present Use: Restaurant, ground floor; apartment, second floor
Present Owner: Nancy O'Harra, Carthage

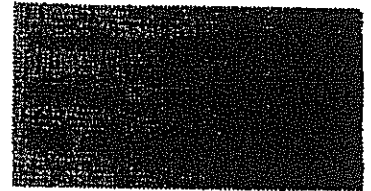
44. 517-521 Main
Block 11 lot 5
Name: Spangler Block
Built: 1868
Type: Italianate
Owner/Builder: John Spangler

This is a simple two-story five-bay brick building with a simple corbelled cornice. The second floor windows have brick corbelled eyebrow arches with carved limestone keystones. All storefront detail has been replaced with non-related materials. Pennsylvanian John Spangler was a druggist, school commissioner, and a veteran of the Civil War. After a successful stint in the drug business, during which he built this building, he and his wife took position at the Joliet prison. He was prison druggist, she took an administrative position in counselling. The west rooms have had furniture operations, while Spangler was in Carthage, then a newsstand, a cleaning business and insurance offices. The east rooms have held a harness shop, a confectionery, a lunch and fountain business, a restaurant, and a shoe repair shop.

Present Use: Commodity sale, east; donut shop west, apartments, upper floor
Present Owner: Albert Johnson, RR Carthage

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46. 525 Main
Block 11 lot 5
Name: Sholl Building
Built: 1856
Type: Greek Revival

Owner/Builder: Jacob Sholl

This is the tallest building on the square other than the courthouse. It is generally a temple form with a pedimented, gabled facade. The eaves are all wood-bracketted in the popular bracket styles of the day. This is a seven-bay, three-story building. Upper facade windows have limestone slab lintels and sills. The two storefronts have been modernized several times with unmatched brick. The open facade has unbalanced fenestration and two different brick surfaces on the two halves of the facade. Pennsylvania-born Jacob Sholl moved to Carthage in 1853 buying a general store established by his brother-in-law. The three-story building was built expressly for an income producing property, as Sholl's business remained several doors east until 1863 when he liquidated it. The combined lodges on the third floor housing in the front half the Odd Fellows and in the rear half the Mason seems to have been a first in a building built for that purpose. The lodgerooms, both abandoned in the 1880s and 1890s for larger quarters, remain intact, having never been used since the lodges left. The first floor drug store initially had a floor lowered by two feet below ground level to give a unique entrance. (Photo 13)

Present Uses: Sherrick Drugs; Chamber of Commerce, first floor; apartments, second floor

Present Owner: O. Downing Sherrick, Carthage

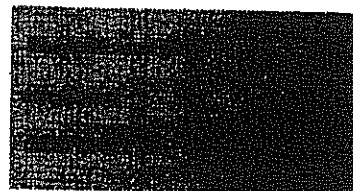
48. 541 Main
Block 11 lot 6
Name: Cutler Building
Built: 1885

Owner/Builder: Dwight Cutler

This is a seven-bay, two-story brick building with simple round-arched second floor windows. The original storefront arrangements remain. Born and raised in New York, Cutler came to Carthage in 1869 and purchased an existing drug store from A. F. Sims. The drug operation was supplemented by an extensive book store and stationery business. The expanded business required more space, which caused the building of the present large store-room. Cutler occupied half and leased out half in the beginning to a grocery store; and the second floor was leased for law offices. The Cutlers were active in all aspects of community life, were among the most influential in the continued development of the town. Cutler's

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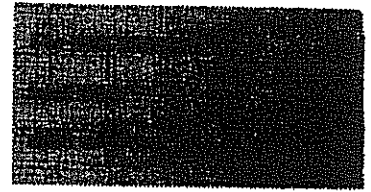
son later purchased and operated the Stevens (Centennial) Hotel.
Present Use: Western Auto Store
Present Owner: Sterling Alexander, Carthage

49. 545 Main
Block 11 lot 6
Name: Wright Building
Built: c. 1915
Type: Commercial
Owner/Builder: Harry Wright
This is a two-story, four-bay brick building. Its cornice stands extremely high over the top of the second floor square-lintelled windows. The original storefront remains, with only the original cast columns missing. The original display window configuration and original display window aprons remain. Originally the site of the Mack Sholl and William Bartels mercantile operation, the Sholl and Bartels building was demolished to make way for Wright's new hardware and plumbing and heating business. By far the most successful in his field, Wright supplied virtually all the plumbing and heating used in Carthage after the point when he entered the business. The upper floor housed the offices of Dr. Robert Sheets in the beginning and later of the Selective Service Board #134.
Present Use: Wright Hardware
Present Owner: 545 Limited, Carthage

50. 546 Main
Block 11 lot 7
Name: Seger Building
Built: 1906
Type: Commercial
Owner/Builder: Emmett Seger
A colonial storefront replaces the original recessed entry display front. A centerplaced oriel is the most prominent feature of this three-bay two story brick building. The cornice is a neatly double-row corbelled one with a finish slotted brick row. Built expressly for Seger's bakery, the Seger business in time included a restaurant and candy and ice cream business. This combined business operated for twenty years. Following Seger the George Hearnnes Mortuary operated here until the 1950s. During these two occupancies the second floor was used for apartments.
Present Use: First floor, law offices; second floor, storage
Present Owner: Leroy Ufkes, Carthage

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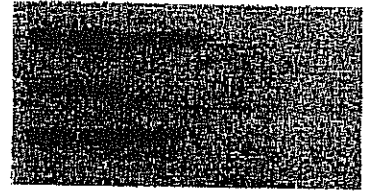
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51. 548 Main
Block 11 lot 7
Name: Riger Building
Built: 1907
Type: Commercial
Owner/Builder: Fred Riger
This building is the twin to 546 Main next door. A year after Seger built his twin building, Riger built this one and leased it to a succession of restaurants for a period of forty years. Law offices occupied the second floor. In the 1950s the ground floor storeroom became the Coast-to-Coast general merchandise store. Similar second floor oriels are used on buildings on the east side and south side of the square. While the designer of this building is not known, the similar configuration buildings on the south and east sides of the square were Payne buildings, demonstrating the Payne influence.
Present Use: Sears Catalog Store, Office supply store, first floor; storage, second floor
Present Owner: Odra Shelor, Colchester, Il.
52. 557 Main
Block 11 lot 7
Name: Belknap Building
Built: 1917
Type: Commercial
Owner/Builder: Scott Belknap
This is an austere brick commercial corner building. It has a cornice which displays a stone tablet with the name Belknap. Second floor windows are square-lintelled. Store entrance is diagonal on the corner. The original center recessed entry is replaced with dual plate glass display windows. Belknap was a Hancock County farmer until he retired in 1913. He then moved into Carthage. He built this building for a Nash automobile agency and garage on the first floor and a tire shop on the second floor. The Belknaps had no children, but they raised 12 orphans. Belknap held a number of local political offices and was a school director. On the site a music store had preceded the present building. After the Nash agency, Kiefer grocery store operated here for 25 years.
Present Use: Paint and wallpaper store, first floor; storage, upper floor; barbershop/beauty shop, rear
Present Owner: Don Bentzinger, Carthage

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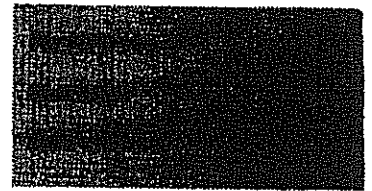
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53. 600 E. Main
Block 17 lot 3
Name: Chevillion Building
Built: 1901
Type: Commercial
Owner/Builder: Leon Chevillion
This eight-bay two story brick building is divided on the upper facade into four panels separated by brick pilasters. Second floor windows are segmental brick arched in the two center panels and eyebrow-arched in the outside two panels. A five-course corbelled brick cornice caps the building. The four storefronts have all been altered somewhat, although many large 2'x4' glass panes remain in the original proportion in the display windows. Chevillion's parents had come from France to Nauvoo with Etienne Cabet and the Icarians. They were dissidents from the French government and were in search of an idyllic existence through a communal experiment. Leon's father had taken part in the French Revolution. Leon started and operated by far the largest farm implement dealership in Hancock County. He also sold buggies, wagons, and hardware. About 1930 Leon sold the building to Lee Huey who established out of this building a highly successful and widely known hybrid seed corn business. The business finally outgrew the building.
Present Use: Cfater shop, laundromat
Present Owner: Dan Gillogly, Carthage
54. 606 Main
Block 17 lot 3
Name: Lawton Building
Built: c. 1902
Type: Commercial
Owner/Builder: John Lawton
This is a two-story, two-bay brick building with a wagon entrance filled to frame a door. The building has a simple panelled cornice of brick. Lawton and his brother-in-law built the building for Lawton's blacksmith shop. Later Lawton trained Frank Edison and Tom Rand in the art of smithing. When Lawton sold out to Edison and Rand, Edison continued the operation until his death in recent years.
Present Use: Storage
Present Owner: Dan Gillogly, Carthage
55. Carthage Courthouse
(See "Significance" text.)

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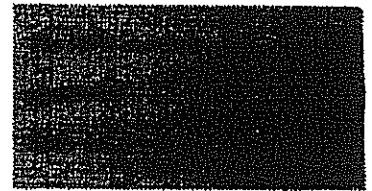
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Non-contributing buildings (as defined by National Register of Historic Places Bulletin #14) in the Carthage Courthouse Square Historic District are as follows: (Building numbers refer to Map B)

8. 87 S. Adams
Block 17, lot 6
Name: Mr. Sweeper
Built: c. 1885
Type: Commercial
Present Use: Vacuum cleaner Shop
Present Owner: Michael Tracy, Carthage
Comment: Originally a contributing building, it has had a entire facade encased in aluminum. Most of the facade, including the storefront, could be reversed by removing the aluminum. However, second floor fenestration has been somewhat altered.
- 13/14. 538 Wabash
Block 25 lot 1
Name: Carthage City Hall/Fire Station; Carthage Library, Geo. W. Payne & son, Architects
Built: 1893; 1900
Type: Romanesque Revival; Commercial
Owner/Builder: City of Carthage
Built as two buildings but fused together for combined city use, the interiors of the buildings are completely integrated. A fire station/city hall was built on the site of the Jacob Sholl home. The fire station bell tower was four stories in height with an open fourth floor bell housing supported by center pairs of columns. Atop the housing was a pyramidal roof with a short lateral crested ridge. Third floor clustered windows are arched. The entire facade is stuccoed and the bell housing and roof removed. The firemen's quarters were on the second floor. The engines were on the ground level behind a large segmented stone-arched set of doors. The city hall function was on the second floor rear. Later, after a subscription by the Columbian Society to raise funds for a new library, the second half of the building was built to house the library, but only on the second floor. The City chambers occupied the first floor. In 1965 the expanded library took the entire building, when the city hall moved away from the square. (Photo 16 and Inset 1)
Present Use: City Library, public rooms
Present Owner: City of Carthage
15. 542 Wabash
Block 25 lot 2
Name: Vacant lot
Present Use: Mini park
Present Owner: City of Carthage (Library)

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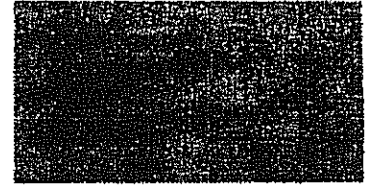
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26. 84 S. Madison
Block 19, lot 7
Name: Dale and Clark Building
Built: 1875
Type: Italianate
Owner/Builder: William Dale and Charles Clark
Present Use: Dale Building -- Radio station, ground floor; storage, upper floor
Clark Building -- Law Office, ground floor; storage, upper floor
Present Owner: Dale Building - Dan Bryant, Carthage
Clark Building - Sam Naylor III, Carthage
Comment: Dale Building -- The entire upper facade has been covered with vertical groove aluminum. The shop front has been replaced with slanted plate glass display, and the original central entry changed to a side entry. Built as one-half of a double-front building, William Dale used the building for his new dry goods business on the ground floor and his family apartment on the second floor. After 4 years he switched to groceries in the same storefront. One year later (he was not able to compete with Nick Helfrich next door) Dale went into the ladies' dresses business. In 1882 Dale leased the building to John Everett for his carpet and music business. In 1887 Dale sold the building and bought a small hotel on the northwest corner of the square. Upper floor has always been apartments.
Clark Building -- Storefront was originally leased to A. Gutman grocery, which also dealt in produce, hides, wool, furs. 4 years later the store became Walter Loring's tobacco factory. In 1888 Charles Pfisterer opened a men's and boy's store. Born in 1820, Charles Clark was an attorney in New York when he came to Carthage to settle an uncle's estate. He decided to stay and later opened a grain and lumber business run by his two sons. Clark also owned the frame building to the north of this storefront. He later built a grain elevator on the CB & Q railroad. The upper floor has always been an apartment. This half of the building has been altered, however the upper facade and cornice changes are reversible.
27. 80 S. Madison
Block 19, lot 7
Name: Karen's Fabrics
Built: 1980
Type: Butler Steel building, gable front
Comment: Intrusion
31. 9 S. Madison
Block 19, lot 9
Name: Royalty Shop
Built: c. 1940
Type: Commercial
Present Use: Dress shop; Present Owner: Dennis Royalty, Carthage
Comment: Built outside the period of significance, this building nevertheless provides sympathetic infill. It is a simple one-story commercial building with a raised center cornice feature. The storefront has been glass/aluminum "modernized".

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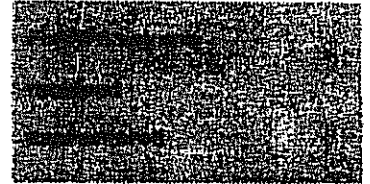
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34. 415 Main
Block 10 lot 6
Name: Wood Inn
Built: 1891
Type: Commercial
Present Use: Bar and grill
Present Owner: John Laffey, Carthage
Comment: A large fire in the building in the 1940s caused the facade to be replaced.
37. 425 Main
Block 10 lot 7
Name: Cochern Building
Built: 1871
Type: Italianate
Present Use: Furniture store
Present Owner: Keith Twaddle, Carthage
Comment: Storefront has been altered extensively. The entire upper facade has been covered with artificial stone applied to brick. Original wood cornice remains intact and visible. The upper facade above the shopfront cornice is reversible. Cost studies on the shopfront replacement and upper facade restoration are being put together.
39. 433 Main
Block 10 lot 7
Name: Hancock National Bank
Built: 1872
Type: Italianate
Present Use: Bank
Present Owner: First National Bank, Carthage
Comment: In 1955 the entire building, except the cornice, was covered with aluminum. In 1983 all windows were removed, classical corner entry pavillion was removed, new down-sized windows were installed, and the aluminum was removed. Loss of original detail and fenestration rendered the building non-contributing.
45. 524 Main
Block 11 lot 5
Name: Republican Building
Built: 1868
Type: Italianate
Present Use: Jewelry store
Present Owner: Jerry Eads, Carthage
Comment: The facade is the duplicate of the two to the west. Although the

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storefront structure has been altered, upper facade and cornice remain intact but have been covered entirely by a mansard envelope. Upper facade alteration is reversible.

47. 537 Main
Block 11 lot 6
Name: Orth Building
Built: c. 1890
Type: Commercial
Present Use: Beauty shop, west; dress shop, east
Present Owner: Lena Kennedy, Carthage
Comment: Building has held on both sides the Cherrill and Sholl Bank, a plumbing and heating company, a restaurant, a cleaning store, a meat market, etc. A fire in the mid-1920s required a major reconstruction which included a new commercial facade, popular in that period and of sympathetic architectural quality in its block.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1856-1923

Builder/Architect Various -- see Section 7

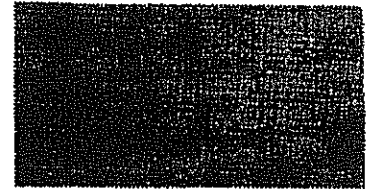
Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)

The Carthage Courthouse Square Historic District is significant in the areas of architecture, commerce, and politics/government. The District meets Register Criterion A: "associated with a broad pattern of our history" as an evolution of the planned county seat and its courthouse square as the commercial center and Criterion C: "embodying the distinct characteristics of a type" as an urban design with the courthouse square as the geographical hub of the town layout, which also becomes the governmental/commercial epicenter of activities. It represents the metamorphosis from an arbitrarily selected wilderness county seat to a functional 20th century trade center. It retains an array of architectural styles from a period significant in its development. The original layout of the square remains, with surrounding streets retaining their ample original widths; and the spread of the original rectilinear grid is still intact. That Carthage remains a small town near several larger urban centers makes it representative of the smaller county seat in a completely rural setting. A most significant period in local architecture is well represented by a number of buildings on the square exemplary of the father and son architectural team of George and Edgar Payne. Together, the Paynes' attained more than local prominence as creators of distinctive commercial designs, as well as designs of other types of buildings. Only a few pre-Civil War buildings remain to demonstrate the Federal and Greek Revival interest of that period. For the most part, the square represents its maturation as a sophisticated Victorian golden-age rural governmental/commercial entity. It could have been with reference to the Carthage square that geographer Edward Price said "the square recapitulates the history of the town. The courthouse was its reason for being, its first central function, the seat of its creator. Even had no town been laid off, a community of businesses and residences would have gathered around it." Today it remains the center of county government and justice; it remains the center of commercial activity for the city; it is still the place to meet and visit; it is still the nucleus from which the town sprawls in its original pattern. The Carthage square tells the story of the typical rural county seat development; of the selection of its site and the methodology employed; of square layout and its relationship to town layout; and of continuity of function. The Carthage Courthouse Square Historic District further serves the "paperweight" function keeping the commercial activity of the community concentrated, as opposed to the scattershot development so frequently found along a town's highways or in towns with no square.

The earliest Hancock County residents clustered around the town of Warsaw on the Mississippi, the site of Fort Edwards. There the fur trade was burgeoning, and because Warsaw was the northernmost navigable point on the Mississippi below the Des Moines Rapids, traffic of all kinds was very heavy very early. In the Hancock County area the historic fur trade was the first natural appeal to new settlers either in the fur-buying business or related transportation or supply enterprises. The lucrative French-Indian trade had been established decades before town-building

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began in earnest in the new west following the War of 1812. It flourished in many pockets up and down the Mississippi and was financed during the post-war period by such large eastern interests as the Astors, Roosevelts, and others. A system of protective army installations was put in place in due time to support these trading operations and the white families involved. The trading and support operations demanded commercial development to meet their minimal needs, a ready market for military tract sales and speculation. During the fervor of town-building throughout the new west, locations were being sought by town promoters and land speculators that would provide commercial advantages of one or more sorts. The belief was that because of an intersection of existing roads or a strategic location, the distance from other commercial centers, a navigable river system, or an auspicious trade history, or other natural advantages, a town would succeed automatically, quickly, and profitably. The profit motive was heightened by the quick profit motive. The real estate speculator in the west-central Illinois military tract promoted the irresistible features that offered the greatest opportunities for his potential buyers.

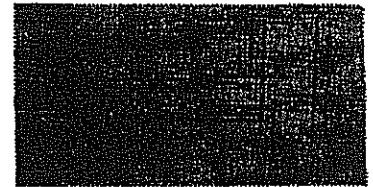
There was early recognition that the farmland in Hancock County was as rich as could be found. Later, the brown silt loam has proven to be the richest upland agricultural land in Illinois, especially so in central Hancock County. Areas east and west of central Hancock are hillier and more wooded, less conducive to grain operations than the center of the county. Settlement in central Hancock for agricultural purposes took place quickly, once the news of the quality of the land became known.

Very shortly after Hancock became an official county it was determined by the Board of Supervisors that a site for the county seat must be chosen. It would serve as the repository for county records, the seat of county government, and the focus for the administration of justice. The widely accepted maxim in fledgling counties with widely dispersed settlements was that the fairest and most efficient method of selecting a county seat was to discover a point as close to the center of the county as was practical. Among the considerations in determining the location were geographical center, location of principal established towns, locations of established roads, and political pressure by influential landowners. A special committee was formed by the Hancock Board of Supervisors in 1831 to locate the geographical center of the county for the county seat. It was certified to the Register of the General Land Office that the county claimed pre-emption on the northwest quarter of section nineteen, five range north, six west, as the permanent county seat. Previously, the court and the supervisors' meetings had been at Fort Edwards and points along the river north of the Fort.

Nothing is known or even speculated about the naming of the county seat; but competition between emerging counties was crisp. It can be imagined that the name Carthage called up the glamour and glory surrounding the ancient and powerful north African City of fact and legend. Of such stuff could county pride be built. It was also true that two or three of the early settlers in the area had come from near Carthage, Tennessee.

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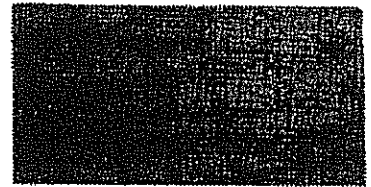
April 2, 1833 a special term of the county supervisors was held at a farm home at the new county seat. At that meeting, county surveyor John Johnson was ordered to lay off the city into lots by May 1. He would be paid out of the sale of lots. At the same meeting, Thomas Owen was appointed to contract for the building of a courthouse to be completed by August. The cabin courthouse was built 16 by 24 feet by John Forrest, completed on time; and at the regular September term 1833 the board met in the log cabin that served as the first Hancock County Courthouse. It was a single-pen which stood on the south side of South Main Street at a point where the present sheriff's office now stands. At that time, the site of today's courthouse was a frog pond. A short distance away near a small woods was another cabin which served as the hotel and tavern. That same September, Louis Masquerier, the first lawyer in Carthage, opened the first store on the square, and it included the first licensed tavern. The county was now growing fast, and so was Carthage. By 1836, the Board of Supervisors was already talking seriously of a new courthouse.

At the March term in 1836, a new courthouse was authorized, with a \$25 premium for the best plan. Contractor for the \$10,000 project was Moses Stevens, and the building was completed in June, 1839. It was a large two-story square hip-roofed building with a tall domed cupola. It occupied the same space as the present courthouse in the center of the courthouse park. For the next fifty years after the second courthouse was built, Carthage prospered and reached its potential in regional stature as a trade and judicial center. The Honorable Orville Browning, later to become Lincoln's close advisor, Secretary of the Interior, and Attorney General, was an active judge in the second courthouse. Stephen Douglas, later U.S. Senator, served as circuit judge here. Douglas sought the support of Carthaginians in his run for the Senate. He spoke eloquently on the courthouse grounds against his opponent, Abraham Lincoln, who in 1838 had been the lawyer for the only man to be hanged in the Carthage courthouse square. Lincoln later rebutted in his Senate campaign speech on the courthouse lawn. Besides Lincoln, other lawyers who frequented the second courthouse included William Richardson, later State representative and U.S. Senator who was responsible for the Kansas-Nebraska Act, wrote the criminal codes for Illinois and Ohio, and became Governor of Nebraska; Nehemiah Bushnell, who became first president of the CB & Q Railroad. A clock peddler who came to Carthage frequently and stayed at the Artois Hamilton Hotel with Stephen Douglas, was persuaded by Douglas to enter the practice of law. Following Douglas' advice, John Palmer later became Governor of Illinois and U.S. Senator. Largest local light in the Carthage court was Judge Charles Scofield, who more than anyone was responsible for the civilization of Carthage.

Business was good on all sides of the square, and the fifty years after the second courthouse was built saw a building boom and a completely changed face on the square. Early businesses that were active during this period included the Sawney and Artois Hamilton Hotels and the Wilson Hotel on the east side of the square where the Dime Bank now stands. Artois Hamilton's Hotel is the site where the bodies of Joseph and Hiram Smith were taken immediately after their slaying at the jail and prepared for their trip to a sorrowing Nauvoo. On the north side of the square was the Carthage Gazette whose editor/publisher Thomas Sharp was the instigator of most anti-Mormon thought in the area. Also on the north side was the Sholl Mercantile Co. operated by Jacob Sholl who later established a large banking operation with Englishman Edward Cherrill. Sholl also lived on the south side of the square in a lovely Greek Revival two story home near the southeast corner. Jimmy Taylor lived

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on the southwest corner in an Italianate home later occupied by the Cox Family whose descendant married one of Lyndon Johnson's daughters. Charles Clark and his sons were operating a very large grain and lumber business in the center of the west block of the square next door to the Stigall Grocery. George Stigall had been one of the first fifty Carthage settlers. On the north of Clark's was the village blacksmith. On the southeast corner the home of early Carthage settler Harmon Wilson was kept as a boarding house by the John Wilson Family. Dick Cannon's tavern was just a couple of doors north of the Wilson Hotel on the east side of the square. Greenleaf Drugs, Harris Implement and Crawford's Grocery were all on the north side of the square, and the sheriff's house was in the center of the south block. During this fifty-year period the square became full of businesses, residences with attached businesses, and vice versa. Almost all of the first generation structures around the square were log or frame, one or two-story; as second generation buildings were built, the major ones were built of brick, a few of frame construction. All third generation buildings were brick. Two of the first buildings on the square remain in Carthage today, both frame, moved to other locations. Vital to the early commerce of Carthage, beside the aforementioned, were the implement dealers. Frequently they doubled as farriers and wheelwrights. The new steel moldboard plow was invented by John Deere in 1837 some 100 miles north of Carthage. Prior to this invention a particularly tall and tough prairie grass had made tilling of the rick soil almost impossible. The new plows made it possible for the first time on a large scale. Had it not been for the advent of the new plow, the development of Carthage might have lagged.

In 1856, an architectural first took place. A three-story building was built almost center on the north side of the square. And if that were not sufficiently eye-opening, on the third floor both the Masons AND the Odd Fellows were to have their meeting ceremonial operations, in separate suites, of course. Their separate emblems remain in a stone tablet on the facade near the gable peak. The building would house law offices and a school on the second floor and a drug store and haberdashery on the first floor. The building was built with a Greek Revival flavor with the popular brackets of the day added to the eaves. Its original simple shopfronts have been "modernized" several times. The builder was Jacob Sholl from Pennsylvania, who later became a prominent banker.

Second growth building began in earnest with the replacement of the first courthouse log cabin in 1866 with the new sheriff's home and jail (Photo 14). It remains today, still a sheriff's office, a vernacular two-story brick vaguely Federal in style fronted by a dressed stone wall and cast iron fence at the sidewalk. The old log courthouse had served as school and church and general meeting place even before the court had moved in 1839. At this time, the square was bounded by North Main, South Main, East Main, and West Main. This was not an uncommon system of designations, although most towns, including Carthage, have since renamed all but one Main Street to avoid confusion.

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The Civil War and post-war period of prosperity in Carthage gave rise to a building boom and the advent of popular new styles of architecture around the square. A series of Italianates evolved from the west corner extending along the north side of the square. The Post Office opened on the corner in the Strader building with brick panelled cornice and arched upper windows. Its twin was built next door in 1875. Next to that John Spangler built a row of modest Italianates to house his drug store, a harness shop and the Carthage Republican newspaper. The Republican was a strong voice in local politics, counterbalancing the Gazette. Published by J. M. Davidson, the Republican was a leader in the drive to secure, establish, and promote Carthage College. In this near half-block cornices were simple and masonry-ornamented by corbelled courses, inset brick panels, and sawtooth dentilling (Photos 7 and 23). A chorus of brick arched windows with carved limestone keys adds to the harmony of the half-block. On the south side of the square in 1876 (Photo 17), a new hotel was built near center-block. Built by John Dee Stevens in the vernacular Italianate style the seven-bay three-story building was an immediate success. Its chief competitor, William Patterson's "Mansion Hotel" on the west corner had a grain and feed store attached to its rear and could no longer accommodate all the need for transient rooms. Wrought iron balconies graced the upper two stories of the entry pavilion. Molded arched hoods of the windows were reflected in a masonry arch at the top of the pavilion below which was the hotel name in iron letters. Exterior and interior appointments caused the hotel to be a trend setter until 1887 when an east wing was added to accommodate the growing business.

The west side of the square is principally Italianates (Photos 5,6, and 7) some originally with wooden projecting cornices, now missing and simply capped. Most have eyebrow arched second-floor windows in tune with those elsewhere on the square. They represent businesses refitting during the war and for twenty years following the war such as the Spittler Opera House, the Duffy and Wetzel Livery, and the present McHugh Drug Store (Photos 20,21, and 22). Of considerable note are the 1880's and 1890's Romanesque buildings designed by the Paynes'. While widely divergent in style and expression from their neighbors, these buildings carefully incorporate many arched second-floor windows (Photos 17,18 and 19) in the Romanesque theme. This feature created a harmony with the earlier Italianate arched windows around the square and resulted in a "planned" aspect to the square.

George Payne, son of a St. Louis civil engineer, moved to Carthage in 1870. He worked as a carpenter until 1887 when he became a full-time architect. He had no formal education in architecture but honed his design skills in planning his carpentry jobs. His son Edgar was educated at Carthage College. Together they designed all of the major buildings and residences in Carthage. So widely known were the Payne designs that they were commissioned in many counties surrounding Carthage. Ultimately, the Paynes' sent plans to most states in the country. They also published several plan books which received wide distribution. As reported by local historian Scofield, "Carthage is the home of a firm of local architects (Messrs. Payne & Son) whose work has reached every state and territory in the Union, their national reputation and popularity of their plans having been gained largely by the care bestowed on the economical and convenient arrangements combined with neat and tasty exterior designs." The Payne contributions were examples of high style in their time, worldly and imaginative, but always suited to the means and use of their commissioners.

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Leaving their original combined quarters in the Greek Revival Sholl building, the Masons commissioned the Paynes in 1889 to design their new two-story stylish headquarters building on the alley on the east side of the square (Photo 15). In 1894, the Odd Fellows built their three-story meeting hall on the east corner of the south side of the square. In both cases, the lodge contracted for masonry and structural work through the first floor only and then finished the buildings with volunteer labor (which in many cases were lodge-member skilled craftsman who worked for the local contractors.) The Odd Fellows Building (Photo 16) proudly retains all of its original detail including gabled pressed-metal cornice and cast iron shopfronts, together with art-glass panels and beaded shop front aprons. Next door west is the three-story Payne-designed city hall-fire station built the year before. In that block is the only residence remaining, the 1866 sheriff's house, next to which is the 1868 Italianate Cutler Hotel (Photo 17) incorporating one of the earliest Payne commercial buildings, an 1887 east wing on the hotel. Adjoining the hotel are two austere 1866-1869 brick-corniced Italianate commercial buildings, (Photo 18) giving a strong personality to the west half of the south side of the square.

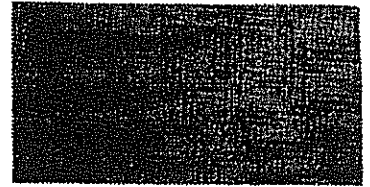
Of less high-style nature were the commercial buildings designed by architect-builders from the 1891 Scovern blacksmith and wagon shop on the northwest outside corner (Photo 21) to the 1923 Journal building (Photo 11) on the southeast outside corner. Practically devoid of ornament, these buildings represented function in its simplest form. Cornice and frieze area masonry banding or panelling were the only upper facade embellishment, while case shopfront pilasters and thresholds provided the only ground level ornamental relief. During this thirty-year period, the Carthage square architecture took one of two extremes: commercial severity or the sophistication provided by the Paynes'.

The fifty years after the building of the second Courthouse was Carthage's golden era both commercially and architecturally. But it wasn't done yet. The growth in Carthage and the rest of the county signalled the need for more governmental space and function and the resultant need for a new courthouse. A resurgence of an old rivalry by Warsaw resulted in a contest to see if the county seat would be moved and a new courthouse built in Warsaw, a bustling river city. However, in 1902, a referendum kept the seat at Carthage. A Detroit courthouse architect, Joseph Mills, submitted plans that whet the appetite of the proud Hancock Countians enough that they passed a \$125,000 bond issue to build. In 1908, the new courthouse was completed and was surely to make Hancock the envy of counties everywhere.

The Beaux Arts courthouse (Photo 1) is smooth-coursed Bedford limestone, three stories with bold corner pavilions and four facades. Each facade has its own entrance. On the north and south, the entrances are to the second floor up an exterior limestone stairways, on the east and west entering on the ground level. The arched entrances are sheltered by shallow three-story classical porticos with pediments supported on both sides by pairs of unfluted corinthian columns. The domed corners of the building reflect the imposing elevated central dome, which suggests the four-story rotunda below. In an economy move in the 1950's, the Board of Supervisors removed the leaking original red roof tiles, replacing them with red asphalt shingles. Four blank clock face panels just below the central dome never had clock faces or clock works, but interest in this nomination has spurred a local drive to purchase and place appropriate clock-works and faces finally on the courthouse.

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The rotunda is balconied on the second and third floors. Interior restrained decoration features several back-lit art glass panels and unusual fish-scale design back-lit art glass domed ceiling in the rotunda. The principal courtroom features a similar smaller-scaled art-glass dome. Dedication services on the courthouse lawn were reported to be easily the largest and happiest event of any kind in Carthage history.

Surrounding the new courthouse in 1908, were five outstanding commercial Romanesque-flavored buildings built in the late 1880's and 1890's. They were generally a little taller than their neighbors, proud and sturdy-looking structures using bold sweeping arches in some cases and heavy stone accents here and there. They represented intrepid steps forward for Carthage architecturally, giving a spice of large urban developments near the end of the century. Their designs were refined and detail-perfect. These were the contributions of the Paynes', father and son, who at the same time were giving residential Carthage a stylishness of undreamed proportions, while scaling their designs to the substance and rhythm of the town as a whole. While some of the arches the Paynes' created on the square have been infilled or removed, and all of the pyramidal roofs have given way to flat ones, nevertheless the mass, fenestration, and themes are unmistakable. So singularly smart were their contributions to the Carthage square that merchants in other communities sought to give their businesses the Payne stylishness in their towns. Today, in town after town, the Payne look can easily be spotted. But only Carthage has the Payne ambience.

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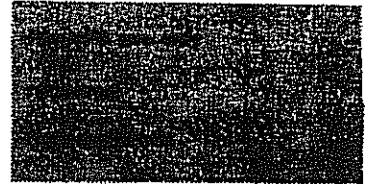
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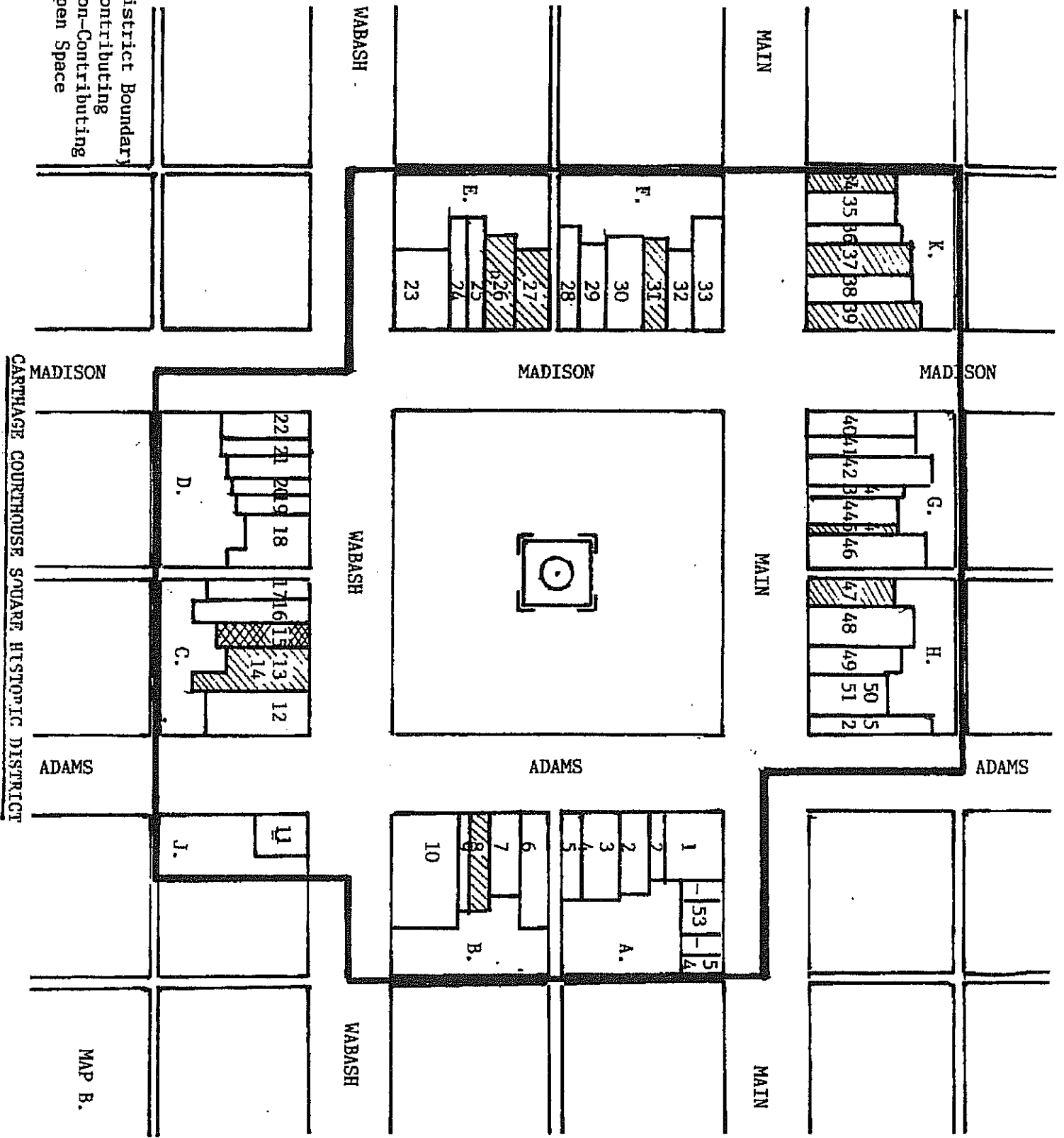
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Verbal Boundary Description: Beginning at the center of the intersection of Main and Adams Streets, the boundary runs east along Main Street to the alley between Adams and Washington Streets, then south along the alley to Wabash Street, then west along Wabash Street to the east property line of the Journal Building, then south to the alley between Wabash and Cherry Streets, then west along the alley to Madison Street, then north to the center of the intersection of Wabash and Madison Streets, then west along Wabash Street to the alley between Madison and Marion Streets, then north along the alley to the center of the intersection of the alleys between Madison and Marion Streets and Main and Walnut Streets, then east along the alley to Adams Street, then south along Adams Street to the point of beginning.

 District Boundary
 Contributing
 Non-Contributing
 Open Space



CARRIAGE COURTHOUSE SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT

MAP B.

